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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 19, 2005

Signature:

Jeremy R. Kriegel
(Jeremy R. Kriegel)

Docket No.: 30051/39651
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Gerhard Müller

Application No.: 10/713,320

Confirmation No.: 1240

Filed: November 14, 2003

Art Unit: 3643

For: APPARATUS COMPRISING A VACUUM
FILLER AND A CLIP MODULE

Examiner: Richard Thomas Price, Jr.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)). It is therefore understood that no fees are due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement. In the event that the Restriction Requirement mailed December 13, 2004, is deemed to be a first Office Action on the merits for purposes of 37 CFR 1.97 (b)(3), then the undersigned authorizes the appropriate fees to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30051/39651.

U.S. Patents

3,748,690	Niedecker
5,113,635	Takai et al.
5,163,864	Burger et al.
5,573,454	Fox et al.
5,709,600	Xie et al.
5,921,857	Simpson
5,951,391	Hergott et al.
6,514,134	Krompholz et al.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30051/39651. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: January 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By Jeremy R. Kriegel
Jeremy R. Kriegel

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Attorney for Applicant

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

Atty. Docket No.

30051/39651

Serial No.

10/713,320

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant(s)

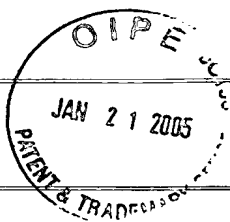
Gerhard Müller

Filing Date

November 14, 2003

Art Unit

3643

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If Appropriate)
	3,748,690	07-1973	Niedecker	452	31	
	5,113,635	05-1992	Takai et al.	53	52	
	5,163,864	11-1992	Burger et al.	452	51	
	5,573,454	11-1996	Fox et al.	452	29	
	5,709,600	01-1998	Xie et al.	452	49	
	5,921,857	07-1999	Simpson.	452	31	
	5,951,391	09-1999	Hergott et al.	452	46	
	6,514,134	02-2003	Krompholz et al.	452	35	10-27-2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Translation	
				Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS

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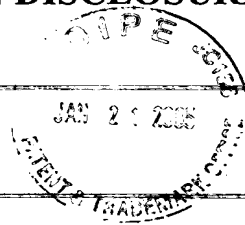
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